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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

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25X1 SUBJECT The Gorubso Ore Mines

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The General Mine Headquarters are located at Alabinska and Graf Ignatiev Streets in Sofia, formerly headquarters of the Orel Insurance Company. Approximately 300 Soviets are attached to the Mine Headquarters.
2. Headquarters for the Gorubso Mines are in Kurdzhali. The following persons are attached to the headquarters:
 - a. Director: a certain Pakhomov, Soviet nationality, [REDACTED]
 - b. Vice Director: a certain Derbesnov, Soviet nationality, [REDACTED]
 - c. Administrator for Supplies: a certain Kubarov, [REDACTED]
 - d. Construction director: Vasili Orlov; and
 - e. Chief of Personnel: first name Ivan, [REDACTED]
3. The beds furnish ore which has a mineral content of 76 percent, of which 18 percent is zinc, 15 percent silver, and 67 percent lead. Some beds furnish a mineral in which the lead content is as high as 90 percent.
4. At Ardino, Zlatograd, and Smolyan, there are 13 beds, of which the most important is at Barieva-Reka, linked to Kurdzhali by an aerial cable 42 1/2 kilometers long. A short while ago, construction was begun on a second cable line parallel to the first.

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5. Flotation installations are located in Kurdzhali, where the mineral is washed, separated and reduced to a pure powder. There are also flotation installations at:
 - a. Madan, a very important one;
 - b. Rudozem, plant recently completed;
 - c. Konski Dol; and
 - d. Strazhimir.
6. The mineral excavated in the entire Kurdzhali area amounts to 1,800-2,000 tons a day. The entire production is sent to the USSR.
7. Ore which has a high percentage of zinc is sent directly to the USSR without undergoing flotation; this ore is transported by truck to the railroad stations at Kurdzhali, Podkova, and Momchilgrad, from there by train to Burgas, and thence by ship to Soviet Black Sea ports. The truck and train convoys are strongly guarded by Soviet troops.
8. Both the ores which have undergone flotation and those shipped direct to the USSR, are reduced to "loaves" of pure zinc, silver, or lead in Soviet plants. Bulgaria is paid 12 leva per kilogram for the mineral "concentrates;" however, when the loaves of pure minerals are resold to Bulgaria the price is 350 leva a kilo for lead, and 720 leva per kilo for zinc. The silver cannot be repurchased.
9. Throughout the entire Kurdzhali region, projects to intensify and ameliorate production have been initiated. In addition to the second Barieva Reka-Kurdzhali cable line mentioned above, narrow-gauge tracks are being laid which will facilitate the transport of the ore from the mines and accelerate its transmittal to the flotation centers. Electrical centers and substations are being constructed and machinery for them is being furnished by the USSR.
10. Buildings to house the miners and workers employed in the flotation plants are also being constructed. These buildings are part of a unit which is to include 4,000 apartments. Most of the houses have two stories and are prefabricated by the Durvo Obrabotvaema Fabrika Lignun (the Lignun Wood Processing Factory) in Iskur.
11. All the above-mentioned construction is entrusted to the Soviet-Bulgarian construction enterprise Sovbolstroi, directed by the Bulgarian engineer Verikh of Sofia.
12. Soviet and Bulgarian personnel and their respective families have the same ration cards. However, the Soviets have better chances of making black market purchases. For example, concerning non-rationed items, the families of Soviet workers may purchase daily one liter of milk per person at 40 leva a liter, and 15 eggs per person each month at a price of 15 leva each. For the same items, Bulgarians are obliged to pay as follows:
 - a. One-half liter of milk per day, for children only, 80 leva per liter; and
 - b. Five eggs a month, 20 leva each.

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13. The director of the Kurdzhali mining center receives approximately 150,000 to 200,000 leva a month. Soviet technicians receive approximately 100,000 to 120,000 leva per month.

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